

CIA Denies Role in Cuban Outbreak of Swine Fever

From a Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—The Central Intelligence Agency Wednesday branded as false charges that it had helped cause an outbreak of swine fever in Cuba in 1971.

In a rare news release, the CIA said that "so-called news stories which had made the charge were apparently replays of a newspaper article of October, 1975, which cited Cuban officials as sources."

It said that "recent editorial articles in certain daily newspapers, some having national circulation, have given currency to (such) false charges."

"The editorials in question express their opinions without reference to any verified facts," the CIA said. "Indeed, there is no foundation to these allegations, and the Central Intelligence Agency has so informed the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence."

"The statement made by the committee to this effect was reported by one newspaper, but otherwise not mentioned by any of the media responsible for publicizing these false charges."

The Times carried a report from Newsday on the charges against the CIA in editions of Jan. 9.